

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 01632 191643Z

70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-15 RSC-01 DODE-00

L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 DRC-01 /079 W

----- 006559

R 191615Z SEP 73

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2427

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

CINCEUR FOR POLAD & OPS

:CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD, OPS & AEAGC-OCO

:CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD & OPS

USELMLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 1632

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, MOPS, WB, UR, GE

SUBJECT: AUTOBAHN INCIDENT INVOLVING U.S. CONVOY

1. AT 0945 LOCAL SEPTEMBER 17, MP 1/4 TON ESCORT
VECHILE FOR CONVOY US-13 TRAVELLING FROM BERLIN TO
HELMSTEDT WAS STRUCK BY AN EAST GERMAN CIVILIAN
VEHICLE AT K-STONE MARKER 85.0. THERE WERE NO
INJURIES. ESTIMATED DAMAGE: U.S. VEHICLE \$200.00;
EAST GERMAN VEHICLE, HEAVY.

2. CONVOY WAS STOPPED ON SHOULDER OF AUTOBAHN BECAUSE
OF VEHICLE BREAKDOWN. VEHICLE WAS REPAIRED AND CONVOY
WAS RE-ENTERING THE AUTOBAHN WHEN ESCORT VEHICLE WAS
STRUCK BY EAST GERMAN CIVILIAN VEHICLE. VOPO'S DID
NOT INTERFERE WITH THE CONVOY.

3. WRECKER TRAVELLING WITH CONVOY RETRIEVED
DAMAGED US VEHICLE AND REJOINED CONVOY AT 1034. DURING
PROCESSING OF CONVOY AT MARIENBORN EAST GERMAN OFFICER
APPEARED AT CHECKPOINT AND SPOKE TO SOVIET DUTY
OFFICER, WHO INFORMED COMMANDER OF US HELMSTEDT DETACH-
MENT THAT EAST GERMANS WANTED DM 240 FROM US GOVERNMENT
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PAGE 02 BERLIN 01632 191643Z

BECAUSE US VEHICLE WAS AT FAULT. US OFFICER DID NOT

RESPOND AND SOVIET OFFICER, WHO SEEMED DISINTERESTED IN MATTER, DID NOT PRESS SUBJECT. ALTHOUGH SOVIET OFFICER CHARACTERIZED IT AS COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGES, SMALL SUM REQUESTED IN RELATIONSHIP TO HEAVY DAMAGE TO EAST GERMAN VEHICLE AND REFERENCES MADE TO ILLEGAL CROSSING OF MEDIAN STRIP LEAD US TO BELIEVE SUM MAY HAVE BEEN INTENDED AS FINE.

4. IF SOVIETS PURSUE MATTER ON BEHALF OF EAST GERMANS AND

IF OUR INVESTIGATION INDICATES THAT US VEHICLE WAS IN FACT AT FAULT, WE BELIEVE CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MAKING EXGRATIA PAYMENT TO OWNER OF EAST GERMAN VEHICLE THROUGH SOVIETS.

5. USCOB CONCURS.KLEIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, MILITARY VEHICLES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BERLIN01632
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS KLEIN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730925/aaaaaska.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Aug-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AUTOBAHN INCIDENT INVOLVING U.S. CONVOY
TAGS: PGOV, MOPS, WB, UR, GC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005